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Ms. Jacob

Reading Assignment (Answers)

1. True / False
2. Julia Romano, the guardian ad litem of Anna, is the only female child in her family.

(False; she has a twin sister)

1. Anna was once the goalie for her hockey team.

(True; however, she has to quit because of her sister, Kate)

1. Campbell's dog, Judge, serves him as a seeing-eye dog.

(False; Judge protects Campbell from the sudden seizure)

1. Jesse, following in his father's footsteps, becomes a firefighter.

(False; he becomes a police officer)

1. It is raining when the Judge makes the decision for the case.

(True; everyone mentions about the weather at the end)

1. Multiple Choice
2. Anna is conceived...
   1. To serve as a companion to her sister, Kate.
   2. Accidentally.
   3. To help her sister, Kate, by sacrificing her body.
   4. To help her mother, because her mother is busy to take care of Kate.
3. What does Anna sell to the pawnshop?
4. Her bracelet
5. Her necklace
6. Her ring
7. Her hair band
8. Why does Anna sell the aforementioned object?
9. She wants to purchase a gift for her sister
10. She needs money to hire a lawyer
11. She must pay the court
12. She pities her mother and wishes to repay her
13. What does Campbell suggest when Anna reveals that she cannot afford his services?

a. Campbell asks her to clean his doorknob

b. Campbell asks her to watch his dog

c. Campbell asks her to pay him back whenever she can

d. Campbell reduces his rate to an affordable price

1. Why did a television company invite Sara and Brian Fitzgerald to its studio?

a. Because Brian heroically saved several people from a fire

b. Because Kate's illness was unique

c. Because they wished to partake in a program about leukemia

d. Because of the controversy surrounding their next child

1. Why did Campbell like Julia?
2. Judge DeSalo liked her
3. Anna liked Julia and Julia was nice to Anna
4. To him, Julia stood apart from everyone else
5. Julia was beautiful
6. How did Kate meet Taylor?
7. They were sitting side by side, hooked up to IVs
8. They met in the hospital cafeteria
9. They met at the hospital dance.
10. Taylor is Dr. Chance’s son.
11. Why Anna does not leave the court with her parents after the case?
12. She feels sorry for her parents so she refuses to go home with them
13. She plans to have dinner with Campbell and Julia
14. She has to sign forms before she leaves the courthouse
15. She knows her parents will go to see Kate afterward and she does not want to see Kate at that moment
16. Where does Julia take Anna when they first meet?

a. A park

b. The hospital, where Kate stays

c. Anna's home

d. The Zoo

1. Julia asks Kate if she gets along with Anna. Kate replies that she sometimes wishes Anna had never been born. What does Kate add regarding Anna?

a. That Anna appreciates having time with her sister

b. That Anna gets mad at Kate because she is always in the hospital

c. That Anna wants to live without her sister

d. That Anna is indifferent to her sister's status

1. Short Answer
2. My Sister’s Keeper applies a unique perspective throughout the story. Who is the speaker of the story and when does the time period? How does this book differ from more conventional novels?

In My Sister’s Keeper, the narrator keeps changing throughout the novel. Sometimes, the narrator is Anna, and sometimes the narrator is Sara, Campbell or Julia. Also, the setting of time continuously changes throughout the novel. While conventional novels tell the story chronologically and read by one narrator, this novel is read by multiple narrators and whenever the narrator changes, the setting of the time changes.

1. What is the real reason that Anna sues for emancipation?

The real reason Anna sues for emancipation is Kate. This is why Anna refuses to testify at first because she does not want to reveal that Kate convinces Anna to file this lawsuit.

1. Kate asks Anna for a favor. What is this favor and why is it significant?

Kate asks Anna to kill her because Kate says she is ready. It is significant because at the beginning of the novel, everyone believes Anna sues her parents because she wants to get attention or she really wants to protect her body; however, Kate asks her to stop being donor and Kate is actually planned this.

1. What does Anna think during the first recess?

During the first recess, Campbell asks Anna, “What do you think so far?” Anna thinks it is weird and she feels that she has turned into a ghost, who watches what is going on, but cannot speak because she heels no one would be able to hear her. Anna tells Campbell that this is not what she expected because she figured out that her mom is right at some point. She asks herself, “what is I was the one who was sick?” or “what if the judge does not think I am right?”

1. Who wins the case? What are the results?

Anna wins the case and the Judge DeSalvo declares Anna’s emancipation from her parents. However, Anna is killed in the car accident on her way to her home.

1. Essay Questions

1. My Sister’s Keeper portrays the dilemma of Anna, a young, thirteen year old girl. Her life revolves around her older sister's illness, but she now questions who she truly is and she seeks her independence. Although she loves her sister, Anna cannot bear to help her anymore. Finding herself at a crossroads, she cannot decide between abandoning her family or seeking her own life. Is Anna's situation unfair for her or should she persevere in order to help her sister? If you were Anna, which decision would you make and why?

Anna is a young, thirteen year old girl, who has a sister who has diagnosed the leukemia. To save her sister, she has undergone so many surgeries and continuously donated her bone marrow to her sister, Kate. Anna knows why she is born. When she was young, she took a role what she needed to; however, like most teenage girsl, Anna begins to question her identity and to refuse to help her sister. Even though Anna loves Kate, Anna cannot accept to live only for her sister. Finding herself at a crossroads, she decides to sue her parents to protect her own body and gets the medical emancipation. I think Anna’s situation is unfair for her because she is yet, immature, but has to go through this dilemma with herself. However, if I were Anna, I would not make a same decision as Anna because I do not want to see my sister die. Anna cannot have her life, but her sister, Kate is about to die and I would feel so guilty if she dies. Even if Kate asks her to kill her, I would try the best. Even if Anna is conceived as a bone marrow match for Kate, Anna is Kate’s sister. Thus, if I were Anna, I would keep sacrificing myself for my sister.

2. The ending of My Sister's Keeper reflects a great sense of irony. What is this irony and do you think that it is appropriate in concluding the story? Is it a fair ending for Anna? Explain your reasoning.

The ending of My Sister's Keeper is very emotional and heartbreak, not only because of the fact that Anna dies but also because of irony in her death. Anna is born and lives for her sister. She has to sacrifice her body for her sister, Kate. However, Anna refuses to help her and wins the case that declares Anna’s medical emancipation from her parents. However, Anna gets the car accidents and unfortunately dies while she gets home after the trial. When Anna dies, Campbell, who has power of attorney for Anna, donates her body to Kate. This is a great irony because Anna fights to protect her body from her sister, but she donates her entire organs to Kate after she wins the case. I think it is not a fair ending for Anna, because by the time she gets the freedom, she dies and she cannot lives her own life.

3. A prevalent theme throughout the novel is that of a mother's love for her children. Sara's circumstances are extreme in that one of her daughters is dying. In this case, do you think that it is fair for her to give more attention to Kate rather than treat both of her daughters equally?

I take a deep breath. “In my life, though, that building was on fire, one of my children was in it – and the only opportunity to save her was to send in my other child, because she was the only one who knew the way… but I also knew that it was the only chance I had to keep both of them... Was it crazy or foolish or cruel? I don’t know. But I do know it was right” (406).

A long time ago, Sara, Kate’s and Anna’s mother, used to be a lawyer but she is not anymore because she is a mother and she needs to live for them. However, one of her daughter, Kate, diagnosed leukemia and thus she puts all her loves to Kate. Her son, Jesse, and the other daughter, Anna, are spoiled, but she has no time to take care of them. In this case, I think it is fair for Sara to give more attention to Kate rather than treat both of her daughters equally because Kate is a leukemia patient, who suffers so much and will die soon. Since Anna is also a daughter, she should have attention, but she should understand that it is not Sara’s fault to give more attention to Kate. She has to do because in this situation, Kate needs her mom more than Anna needs.

4. Another theme portrayed in the book focuses on the effect of burdens that one places upon another. Immediately following their high school graduation, Campbell abandoned Julia without reason because he did not want to burden her with his illness. How does this parallel the situation between Anna and Kate? How do the outcomes of the relationships differ?

“You were so incredibly independent. A free spirit. I didn’t want to be the one who took that away from you” (384).

Anna and Kate are fate to be sisters; Campbell and Julia are the fate to love. After their high school graduation, Campbell abandoned Julia without reason because he did not want to burden her with his illness, including a seizure. However, they meet again through this case and find out that they still love each other. Similarly, Kate, a leukemia patient, asks her sister, Anna, to stop donating Anna’s body because Kate does not want to burden Anna anymore with her illness. On the other hand, the outcome of Anna and Kate differ from Campbell and Julia. Campbell and Julia were separated for fifteen years and now they reunited; conversely, Anna and Kate spent fifteen years together and now they break free.

5. It is revealed that Anna was named, by her father, after the galaxy, Andromeda. In Brian's conversation with Julia, he focuses on his interest in stars. How does Anna's life relate to the concept of a falling star? Provide a chronological analysis of Anna's life in regard to a fallen star.

There are stars in the night sky that look brighter than the others, and when you look at them through a telescope you realize you are looking at twins. The two stars rotate around each other, sometimes taking nearly a hundred years to do it. They create so much gravitational pull there’s no room around for anything else. You might see a blue star, for example, and realize only later that it has a white dwarf as a companion – that first on shines so bright, by the time you notice the second one, its really to late. (416)

Anna always lives for her sister. Anna’s life is just like a star. Anna brightens the life of Kate as she lives. She continuously donates her bon marrows to Kate and cannot live like other teenage girls - she could not go to any camp or any party- because no one knows when Kate will need Anna. Anna is there for Kate but just like a twin star, no one realizes Anna because she is veiled by her sister’s status. However, when her parents understand Anna, it is too late because Anna is not live anymore: she becomes a fallen star.